THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Most of the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have reported that there is no shortage of clercial staff. However, some of the PSBs have reported that there is some shortage and the concerned banks are taking steps to fill up the vacant posts by redepolyment, special recruitment drive for SCs and STs any by regular recruitment process.

Dearness allowance due to employees

1535. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which additional dearness allowance and relief has become due to Central Government employees and pensioners *w.e.f.* 1st January, 2006;

(b) by when orders to that effect are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Dearness Allowance (DA)/ Dearness Relief (DR) to Central Government Employees/Pensioners is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July and normally payable with salary for the months of March and September respectively. The revised amount of DA/DR will be notified in due course.

Action against NBFCs

†1536. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to check the fraud of non-banking financial companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of those non-banking companies who have cheated public during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have not come across any frauds in Non-Banking Financial companies (NBFCs).

(c) During the last two years, the Bank has received complaints against 11 (eleven) NBFCs which have defaulted in maturity payments to the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

depositors. List of the companies who have defaulted in repayment of public deposit during the last two years:

Sl. No.	Name of the Companies
1.	Manipal Finance Corporation Ltd.
2.	Al-Ameen Islamic Financial & Investments Corpn. (India) Ltd.
3.	Capital Chamber Finance Ltd.
4.	Integrated Finance Company Ltd.
5.	Gopal Arya Finance Ltd.
6.	Syal Finlease Ltd.
7.	Ju-Ju Finance Ltd.
8.	Shabnam Leasing & Finance Ltd.
9.	Escorts Finance Ltd.
10.	Standard Saving & Investment Co. Ltd.
11	Vridhishri Finance & Investment India Ltd.

(d) Reserve Bank has been taking action against NBFCs which have not complied with the provisions of RBI Act and the diretions thereunder or have shown weaknesses in the financial position. Such action includes prohibiting the companies from carrying on NBFCS activity, acceptance of deposits and alienation of assets. Wherever, the default is persistent in nature, Bank initiates winding up proceedings and also files criminal complaint against the directors of the NBFC.

Increase in prices of gold and silver

1537. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of gold and silver are rising in the country during the last 2-3 years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this increase; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to bring down the prices of gold and silver?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The average price of gold per 10 gram in India rose from Rs. 5192 in April 2003 to Rs. 6551 in November 2004, but eased lower during the subsequent months to Rs. 6058 in